

particular antigen, comprising: administering to the respiratory tract of a mammal afflicted with, or at risk of, the indication or disease a dosage form comprising an amount of at least one epitope peptide, [or a combination thereof,] wherein the administration of the dosage form is effective to suppress, tolerize or inhibit the priming or activity of, CD4⁺ T cells which are associated with antibody production, in mammals having divergent immune response haplotypes, wherein the CD4⁺ T cells are specific for the antigen, wherein the sequence of the epitope peptide comprises a universal, immunodominant epitope sequence, and wherein the peptide comprises less than the sequence of the antigen.

17. (Four times amended) A method to tolerize a human to an endogenous antigen associated with aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production in the human, comprising: administering to the respiratory tract of the human at least one epitope peptide, [or a combination thereof,] having a universal immunodominant epitope sequence, wherein the administration is effective to tolerize CD4⁺ cells which are associated with antibody production, in humans having divergent HLA haplotypes to the endogenous antigen and wherein the peptide comprises less than the sequence of the antigen.

Remarks

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims, in view of the amendments and remarks herein, is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 2 and 17 are amended. The amendments to the claims hereto for were made with the intent to further prosecution and not to concede to the correctness of the Examiner's position or to prejudice the prosecution of the claims prior to amendment which are present in a continuation application of the present application. Claims 1-13, 16-18, 31, 34-39, and 41-43 are pending.

The amendments to claims 1, 2 and 17 are supported by originally-filed claims 1, 2 and 17.

Upon a review of the file, Applicant's Representatives noted that a copy of Form 1449 filed with an Information Disclosure Statement on July 26, 2001, initialed and marked as having